



FROM THE TOP OF THE HILL

Please attend the next meeting, as we will put the finishing touches on Hamfest planning. If you haven't done so, be sure you let Darryl know where you can help. This is our main club fund raiser for the year, so it takes the whole club to pull it off.

Besides Hamfest planning, Dan, WA6CRB, will give a presentation on his involvement in setting up radio stations for the military in Viet Nam. Should be interesting.

I will be attending the DX convention in Visalia and will use the occasion to plug our Hamfest.

I just completed the annual club report for the ARRL, so we are good for another year.

If you are able, check into the weekly net, every Wednesday, except meeting nights. If you are unable, let me know so we can get you on the air.

Happy operating. See you at the next meeting.

73 Jim, K6UUW

NEXT MEETING

Wed, April 18, 2018, 7:30pm

City of Sonoma EOC,

Sonoma Police Department

Topic: Vietnam On The Air

VOMARC Meeting Minutes

March 21, 2018

Called to order at 19:30 by Supreme President K6UUW, thank you very much!

KD6FIL (Dave), KG6QNT (Eileen), KG6N (Frank), K6UUW (Jim), NJ6E (Stan), KJ6ZMV (Wendy), KA2QQO (Declan), N7PIB (San), K6KLL (Alan), N6TVN (Carl), KA5WSS (Robert), KI6TPK (Kevin), W1EJ (Ed), KE6HID (Andrew), WB6TMH (Mike), KF6FZM (Dick), WD6BOR (Darrel), KM6QJC (Allen), KV6X (Dan)

Introductions.

Minutes: Approved

President: N6KM became a silent key on March 10. He will be missed. A sheet was sent around for the card that was going to be sent to his family.

Vice President: CQWPX contest is coming up.

Secretary: Need to start the paperwork for 2019. Free day letter to City of Sonoma soon.

Treasurer's report: We have \$2959.07 plus \$50 dues with more being turned in.

ACS: The next Level One Training is coming up if anyone want to join ACS.

ACS is looking for new members.

Radio Officer: WB6TMH is in the process of moving back to Sonoma.

New Business:

Free breakfasts for Public Safety personnel at that come to the hamfest.

K6UUW will email the Sonoma City council to invite them to come to the hamfest.

VE Session at the Hamfest will be handled by N7PIB so that our President can run the club station.

Sign-up sheet for jobs at the Hamfest was passed around. The big need is need for kitchen help. 6 people from 7 to 9 and 6 from 9 to 11.

Registration 1 person from 7:30 to 11

Swap registration – 1 person

Talk in – 1 person.

Swap Table – 2 people

Club Radio Station – will be set up in the parking lot. Stan made up a new sales sheet for club members that want to sell items at the club table.

Meeting Adjourned at 19:56

Presentation: Amateur Television – presented by NJ6E

—Submitted by: KD6FIL

Chinese Satellites in Lunar Orbit to Include Ham Radio

A pair of micro satellites to be launched this spring into lunar orbit will boast of an Amateur Radio component. Though not a transponder, the satellites will be able to send telemetry and receive commands to take photos and return digital images in response.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/chinese-lunar-orbit-amateur-radio-payload-could-launch-this-spring-1>

—Submitted by Robert KA5WSS

FT8 DXpedition Mode Undergoing Testing

The rapidly growing FT8 digital mode has been a hit with owners of modest stations for its unparalleled ability to dig out weak signals on the HF bands with little power. The downside of the mode compared to some others was the relatively long amount of time required to complete a QSO. For events like DXpeditions that low rate was a deal breaker. Work is ongoing, but under ideal situations contacts rates approaching 500 per hour appear possible. If included in future DXpeditions rare DXCC countries will be opened up to more Hams with modest stations.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/ft8-dxpedition-mode-field-test-attracts-upward-of-500-participants>

—Submitted by Robert KA5WSS

ARRL Pacific Division Musical Chairs

An opening in the ARRL's leadership caused a case of musical chairs for our Pacific Division. When the ARRL Second VP did not stand for reelection our own Pacific Division Director Bob Vallio, W6RGG, was elected to succeed him. With the Director position now vacant our Vice Director, Jim Tiemstra, K6JAT, moved up to fill that role. To finish out the reorganization, Kristen McIntyre, K6WX (also J11ZZ), was appointed to be the new Pacific Division Vice Director. Kristen is currently the president of the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Club.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/kristen-mcintyre-k6wx-appointed-arrrl-pacific-division-vice-director>

—Submitted by Robert KA5WSS

More than 30,000 New Ham Licensees and 7,000 Amateur Radio Exam Sessions in 2017

For the fourth year in a row, more than 30,000 new licensees joined the Amateur Radio ranks, and ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (VEC) conducted more than 7,000 Amateur Radio exam sessions, serving some 35,350 candidates for a new or upgraded license. At the end of December 2017, the US Amateur Radio population stood at 748,136.

(ARRL newsletter, 4/5 2018)

—Submitted by Jim K6UUW

Apparent First 2200-Meter Transatlantic Contact by US Radio Amateur Reported

In late March, Paul Kelley, [N1BUG](#), of Milo, Maine, completed what may have been the first transatlantic 2200-meter (136 KHZ) contact by a US radio amateur under Amateur Radio rules. Signals in this part of the spectrum and lower previously have spanned the Atlantic in one direction, and Canadian radio amateurs have reported transatlantic contacts on the band dating back several years..

(from ARRL Newsletter, 4/5/2018)

—Submitted by Jim K6UUW

ARRL Seeks EC-001 Mentors

Since the beginning of the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications training program, ARRL has relied on the work of mentors to help guide those interested in volunteering to serve their communities. Our mentors represent the best in Amateur Radio public service communications training, and make a

substantial difference in how students approach service to their communities and Amateur Radio. The mentors bring the written text of a course to life for these amateurs, many of whom they will never meet face to face.

Our current pool of mentors is low, and ARRL has an immediate need for new mentors who are willing to start as soon as they're approved. Mentors are more than teachers. They are the guides that new radio amateurs, and those new to public service communications, rely on to show them all the possibilities for Amateur Radio to benefit the public and the partners we work with.

Mentors for the EC-001 *Introduction to Amateur Radio Emergency Communications* course must be active radio amateurs, General class or higher, who are 18 or older and ARRL members. Applicants should have successfully completed ARRL EC-001, have experience in public service communications and ARES activities, and have the recommendation of their ARRL Section Manager.

For more information on applying to be a mentor, [contact](#) ARRL Emergency Preparedness Assistant Ken Bailey, K1FUG, (860) 594-0227. Read [more](#). (from ARRL newsletter, 3/22/2018)

—Submitted by Jim K6UUW

Just When You Thought It Was Safe: Chinese Over-the-Horizon Radar Appears on 40 Meters

The International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 ([IARU-R1](#)) Monitoring System ([IARUMS](#)) reports that one of China's over-the-horizon radar (OTHR) installations has been causing interference in the Amateur Radio 7 MHz band. The IARUMS [February newsletter](#) reports on that intruder and others.

Other Top 5 intruders include a "single-letter beacon" transmitting either the letter "K" or the

letter "T" on 7039.3 kHz. The source is believed to be in the Russian Pacific, Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky. A Russian F1B teleprinter signal (RDL) has appeared on 7193 kHz, with an encrypted frequency-shift-keyed (50-baud) signal, originating in Kaliningrad. Authorities in Germany and Switzerland have filed official complaints.

A Russian orthogonal frequency-division multiplex OFDM 60 signal has been showing up on 14.235 MHz, covering nearly 3 kilohertz. It's said to be located in Moscow. Three Russian OFDM 60 signals were active at the same time on February 13. A Russian F1B signal has been observed on 14.308 MHz, 50 baud, 500 Hz shift, also reported to be in Moscow.

(from ARRL newsletter, 3/22/2018)

—Submitted by Jim K6UUW

Uses For Old Ham Radio Magazines?

Like many of you, I get a copy of QST from the ARRL every month in the mail. After devouring its contents I tend to toss it in the recycling bin. Does anyone have a better idea for what to do with these issues once we are done with them?

I've given some to my wife to leave in her waiting room at her place of work in the past, but I'd like to find an even more effective destination for them if possible. A school tech group need reading material? Does the local library have a magazine drop off table? Any ideas?

—Submitted by Robert KA5WSS

THE VOMARC WIRELESS

VOLUME 22 EDITION 4

A publication of VOMARC, the Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club – W6AJF

Frank C. Jones – W6AJF

Honorary President in Perpetuity

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Jim Hill K6UUW – President

Robert Barron KA5WSS – Vice President

Dave Dammuller, KD6FIL – Secretary

Eileen Adams, KG6QNT – Treasurer

Mike Miller, WB6TMH – Radio Officer

Ken McTaggart, N6KM – ACS Unit Leader

Sanford Smith, N7PIB – VE Liaison

Jim Hill K6UUW – Elmer Coordinator, Training Officer, President Emeritus

Ken McTaggart, N6KM – Station Trustee for W6AJF

Eileen Adams, KG6QNT – Webmistress, Editor

"Receipt of the Wireless is one of the most sought after benefits of membership in VOMARC. "—S. Marler

CLUB MEETINGS are held on the third Wednesday of each month at the City of Sonoma Police Department EOC 175 1st St West. Meetings start at 19:30 local (7:30 P.M.).

WEB PAGE: <http://www.vomarc.org/>

Nets are held every Wednesday night at 19:30 (7:30 P.M.) local, except meeting nights on the 145.350 repeater, -600 kHz, PL 88.5 Hz.

ACS holds a net each Monday evening at 19:30 local on the 146.205, +600, PL 88.5 Hz repeater.

PACKET STATION INFO: The VOMARC packet station is off the air until further notice.

CLUB BREAKFASTS are held on the first Saturday of each month at Black Bear Restaurant, 201 W Napa St, #34 (Marketplace Shopping Center), Sonoma. The fun starts at 08:30 local.

Comments and submissions of material may be sent to:

Eileen@vom.com

—OR—

Valley of the Moon ARC, Inc.

C/O Sonoma Police Department
175 First Street West
Sonoma, CA 95476

Historic Radios on Display at SFO

By Robert KA5WSS

If you find yourself flying out of or into SFO between now and September be sure to swing by Terminal 3 if you have some free time to peruse numerous museum displays of historical radios. My wife and I stumbled across the presentation and spent a good deal of time perusing the items that stretch from the beginnings of tube radios through the introduction of transistor radios in the 1960's and 1970's. The items on display vary from pre-tube era crystal sets to the gorgeous wood panel designs from the 30's and 40's and to later novelty radios such as a radio made to look like a sandwich and chips. I'll leave it up to you to decide why someone needed one of those.

There's a bit of high level discussion about the technological advances in receiver design over the decades as well as the legal battles over patents and licensing. Separate display cases for vacuum tubes and microphones are also featured.

Unfortunately, I did not find any reference to Amateur Radio but it's still worth a look if you're



Table top radios.



Vacuum tubes.



Pay to listen radios found in hotel rooms.

interested in the technological advances in radio design. I took a few photos, though lighting with glare off of the glass cases was a bit of an issue.

The California Historical Radio Society, an organization to which VOMARC has made a donation in the past, seems to have played a role in bringing this display to life.

Club members discuss Amateur TV

after March's meeting and demonstration. Front left to right Stan NJ6E, Dan kv6x, Jim K6UUW, Frank KG6N and Mike WB6TMH.



**2018 ACS
Net Control Assignments**

	Name	Call
JANUARY	MOE	KI6JNU
FEBRUARY	JIM	KJ6UUW
MARCH	SCOTT	KJ6QIQ
APRIL	JIM	K6UUW
MAY	DICK	KF6FZM
JUNE	MOE	KI6JNU
JULY	KEN	N6KM
AUGUST	GILL	KJ6EIG
SEPTEMBER	SAM	W5LTP
OCTOBER	DICK	FK6FZM
NOVEMBER	MIKE	WB6TMH
DECEMBER	DARREL	WD6BOR

**2018 VOMARC
Net Control Assignments**

	Name	Call
JANUARY	SCOTT	KJ6QIQ
FEBRUARY	JIM	K6UUW
MARCH	MOE	KI6JNU
APRIL	DAVE	KD6FIL
MAY	ED	W1EJ
JUNE	FRANK	KG6N
JULY	MOE	KI6JNU
AUGUST	CARL	N6TVN
SEPTEMBER	SAM	W5LTP
OCTOBER	DICK	KF6FZM
NOVEMBER	MIKE	WB6TMH
DECEMBER	DARREL	WD6BOR

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE APRIL 18, 2016, 7:30PM,
CITY OF SONOMA EOC, SONOMA POLICE DEPARTMENT, 175 1ST ST W, SONOMA, 95476
SEE YOU THERE.**

VOMARC MEMBERSHIP 2018

Membership Dues: \$15/year individual; \$5/year family member at same address.

VOMARC encourages its members to join the ARRL. More information is available at www.arrl.org.

QST is available to blind and physically handicapped individuals on audio cassette from the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Call 1-800-424-8567.

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Address: _____ APT: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

VOMARC Membership: Complimentary with Class—Date: _____

Membership Moment, From the Database Queen:

Dues may be mailed to VOMARC in care of the Sonoma Police Department, 175 1st St West, CA 95476, or brought to the next meeting. Your check should be made payable to: **VOMARC**.